



Aquaro 1-1-36-86

*Response #12
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6/6/03*

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application

Applicant(s): Aquaro et al.
Docket No.: 1-1-36-86
Serial No.: 09/516,274 ✓
Filing Date: February 29, 2000
Group: 2828
Examiner: Tuan N. Nguyen

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited on this date with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Signature: *[Signature]* Date: May 28, 2003

Title: Method and Apparatus for Coupling a Multimode Laser to a Multimode Fiber

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the outstanding Office Action, dated March 31, 2003, Applicants submit the following remarks.

REMARKS

The present application was filed on February 29, 2000 with claims 1 through 16. Applicants note that in the Office Action dated November 19, 2002, the Examiner indicated that claim 16 had been readmitted and was pending in the application, following Applicants traversal of the restriction requirement. In the current Office Action (dated March 31, 2003), the Examiner has indicated that claims 1 through 15 are pending. Applicants assume that claim 16 has been readmitted and that claims 1 through 16 are presently pending in the above-identified patent application.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1, 8, and 15 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being unpatentable over Scifres et al. (United States Patent No. 4,818,062), rejected